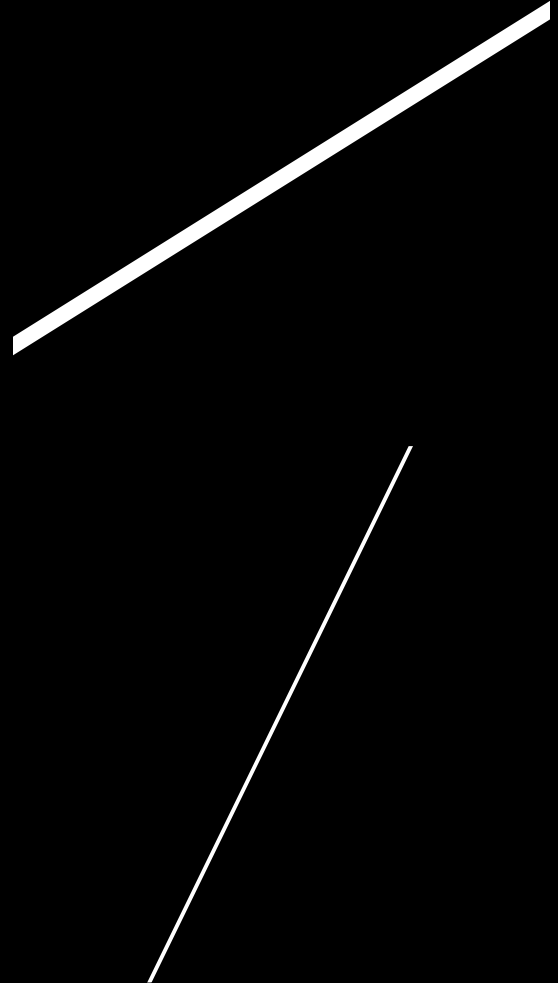


# Big data, ML and AI for energy systems

*Hendrik F. Hamann  
Chief Science Officer  
IBM Research  
[hendrikh@us.ibm.com](mailto:hendrikh@us.ibm.com)*



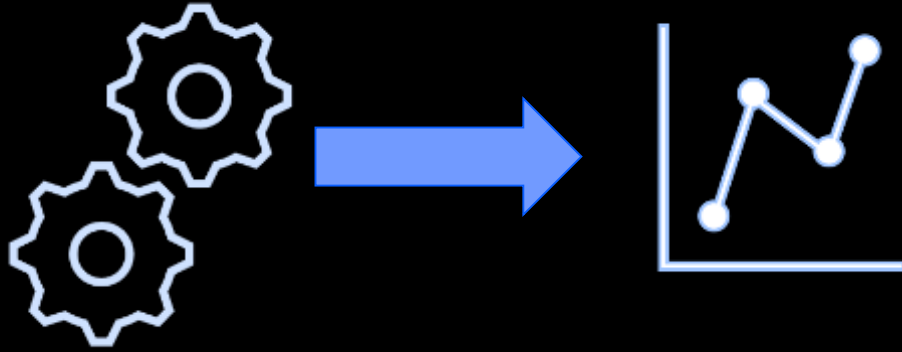
# Ever improving, lower cost computation generates big data, which drives machine-learning and AI



## Computation & storage & networks

- 50% better performance/year
  - less cost/year

# Ever improving, lower cost computation generates big data, which drives machine-learning and AI



## Computation & storage & networks

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## Massive Data

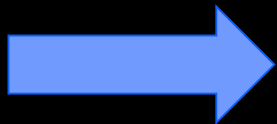
- 90% of all data created in the last two years

# Ever improving, lower cost computation generates big data, which drives machine-learning and AI



## Computation & storage & networks

- 50% better performance/year
  - less cost/year



## Massive Data

- 90% of all data created in the last two years



## Machine Learning & AI Foundation Models

- Already 98% of enterprises already use AI

# Digitization is progressing quickly



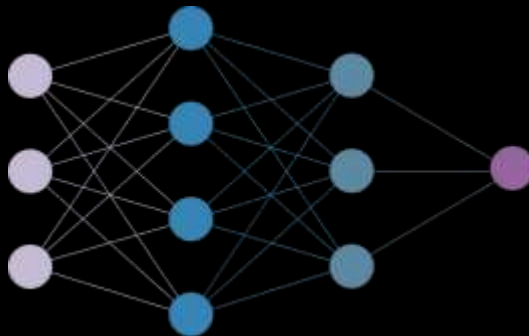
- *Electric Grid*
- *Physical assets*
- *Weather*
- *Climate*
- *Materials*
- ....

# Let's talk Data

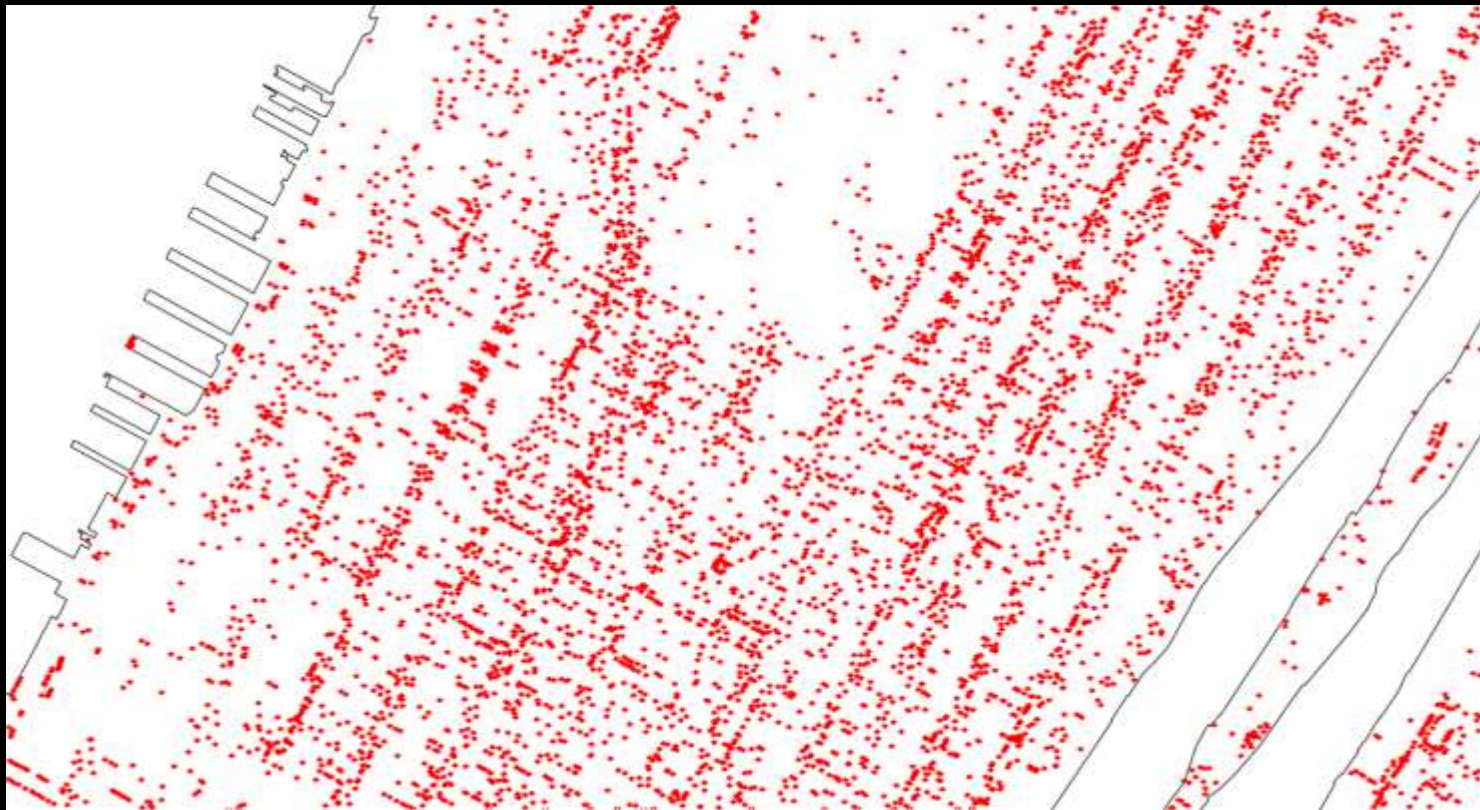


# Data Challenges - Various modalities

	<i>Sequence</i>	<i>Time series</i>	<i>Geospatial</i>	<i>N-dimensional</i>	<i>....</i>
<i>Text</i>					
<i>Image</i>					
<i>Vector</i>					
<i>Audio</i>					
<i>...</i>					

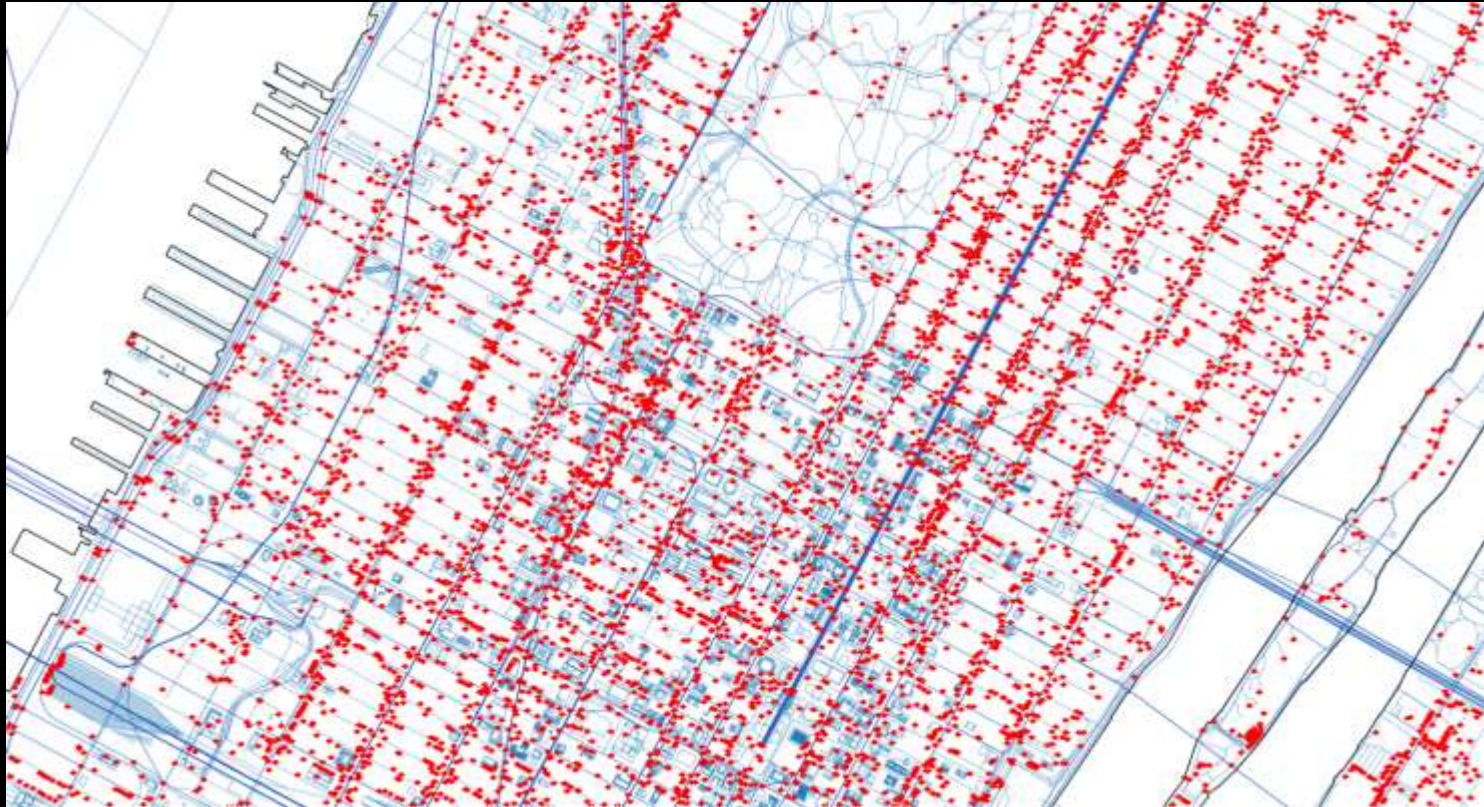


# Data Challenges – Creating Context





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# Data Challenges – Creating Context





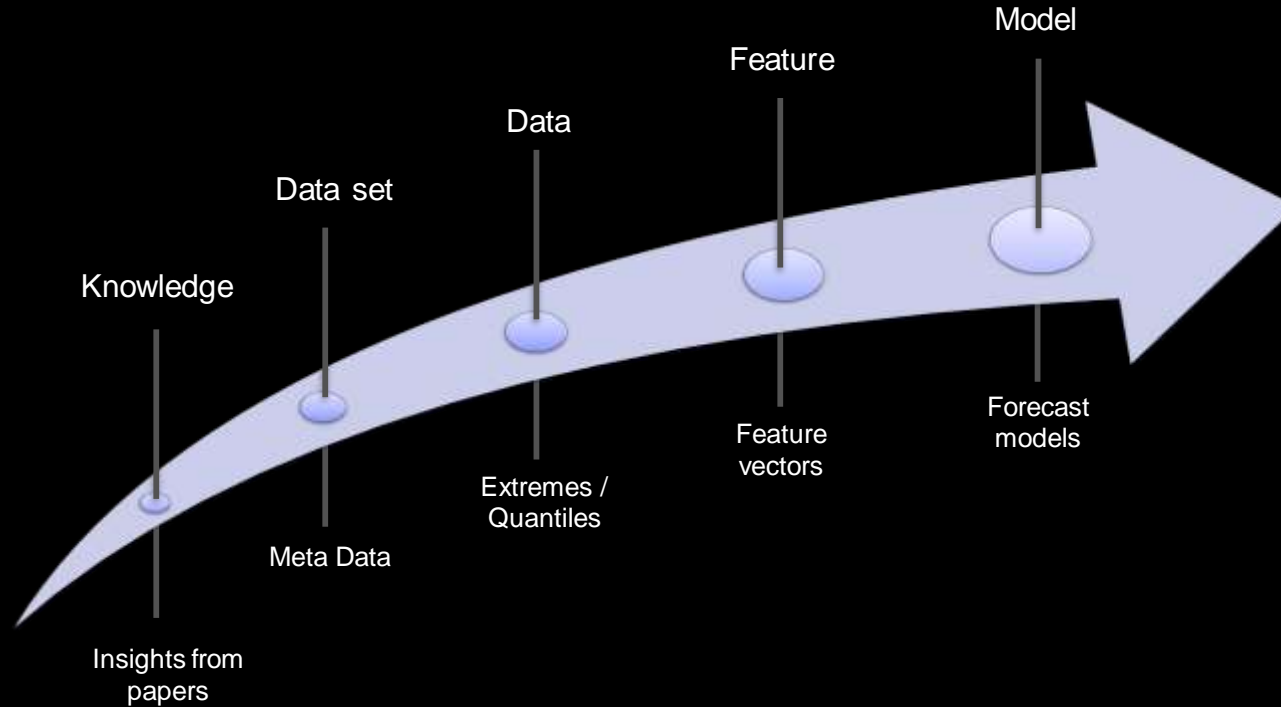
# Data Challenges – Gravity



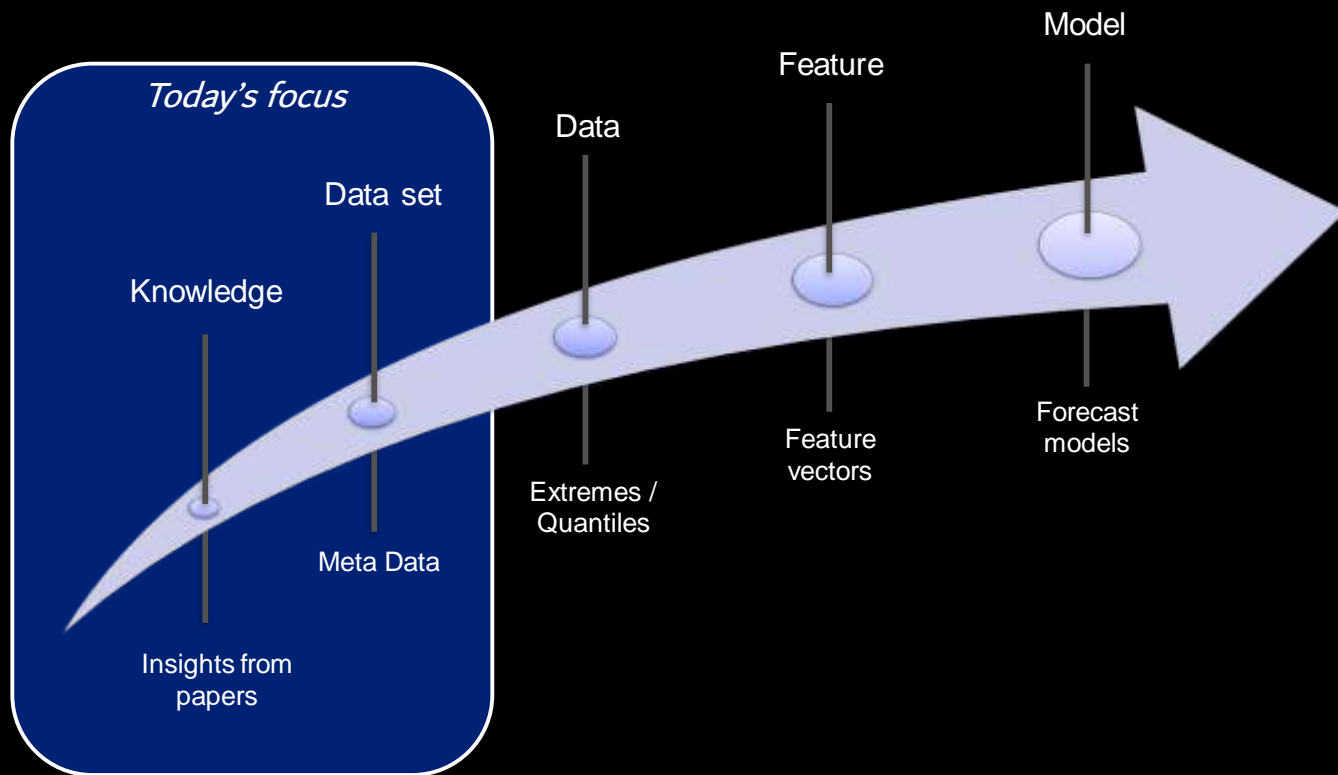
# Data Challenges – Gravity vs Entropy



# Data Challenges – Lack of Discoverability



# Data Challenges – Lack of Discoverability



Question – How to envision the next-gen data technology to support AI for energy systems?

# Next Gen Data System



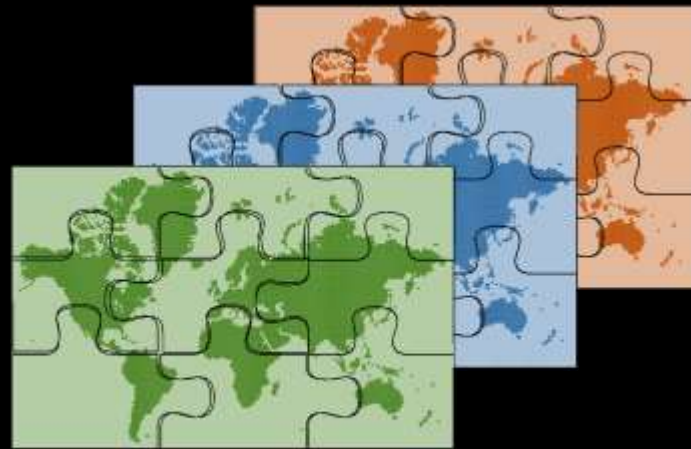
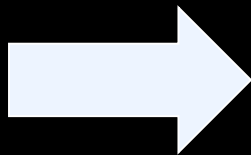
Distributed, massive,  
multi-modal data



# Next Gen Data System



Distributed, massive,  
multi-modal data

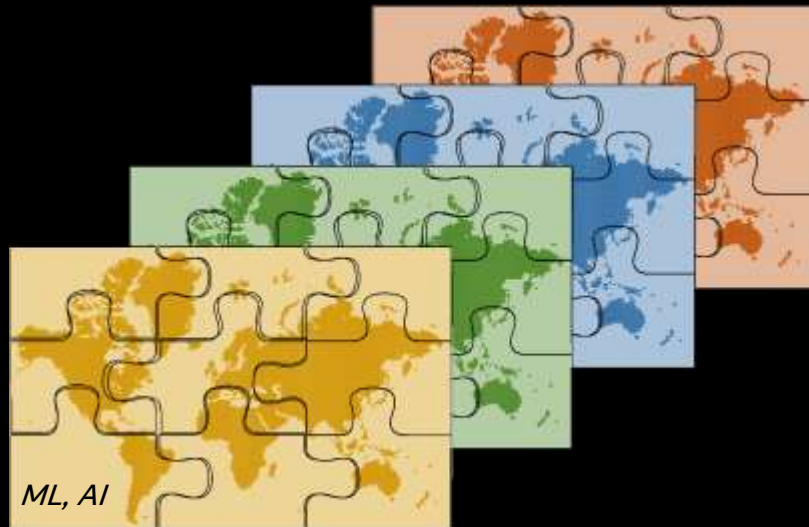
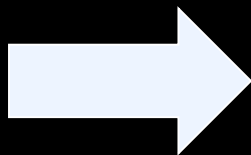


- Federated, integrated and contextualized
  - Scalable search and discovery

# Next Gen Data System



Distributed, massive,  
multi-modal data



- Federated, integrated and contextualized
  - Scalable search and discovery
- Rapid insights (with little data movement)

# Innovation and Research opportunities for next-gen data technology to support AI for energy systems

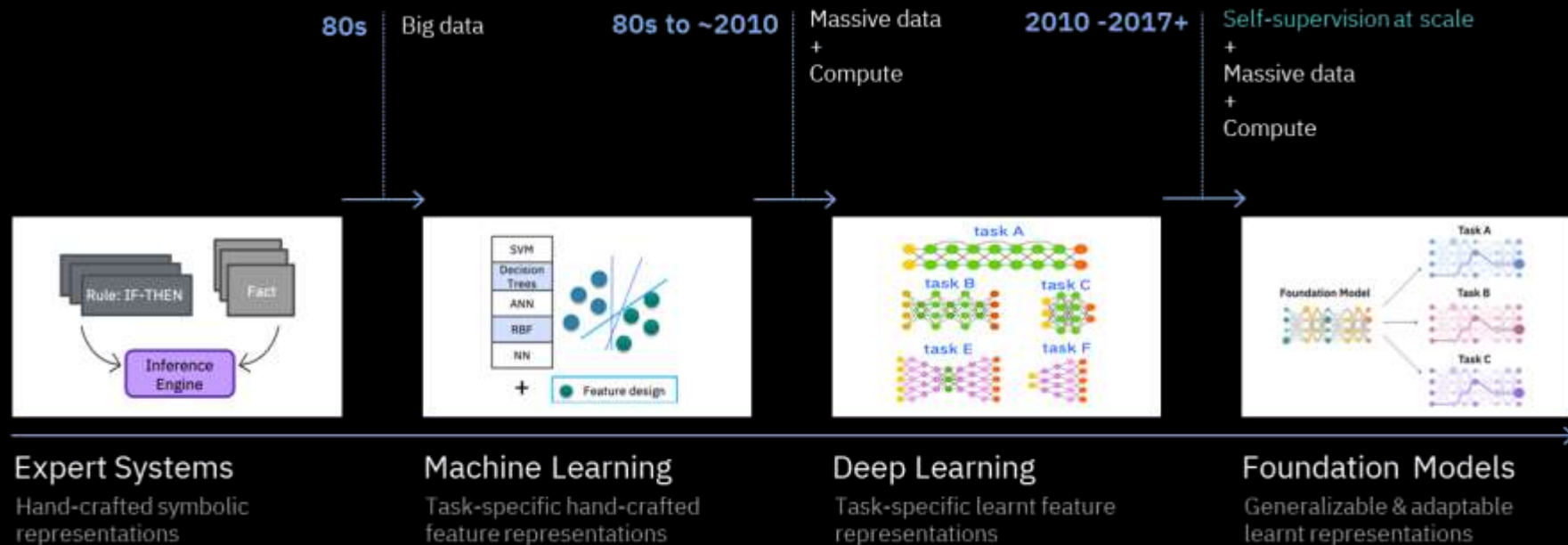
- *New federation approaches & distributed computing*
- *New forms of in-data computation*
- *Advanced indexing / novel data structures for energy system specific information*
- *Information discovery (going beyond meta-data)*
- *New forms of representing logical and physical information*



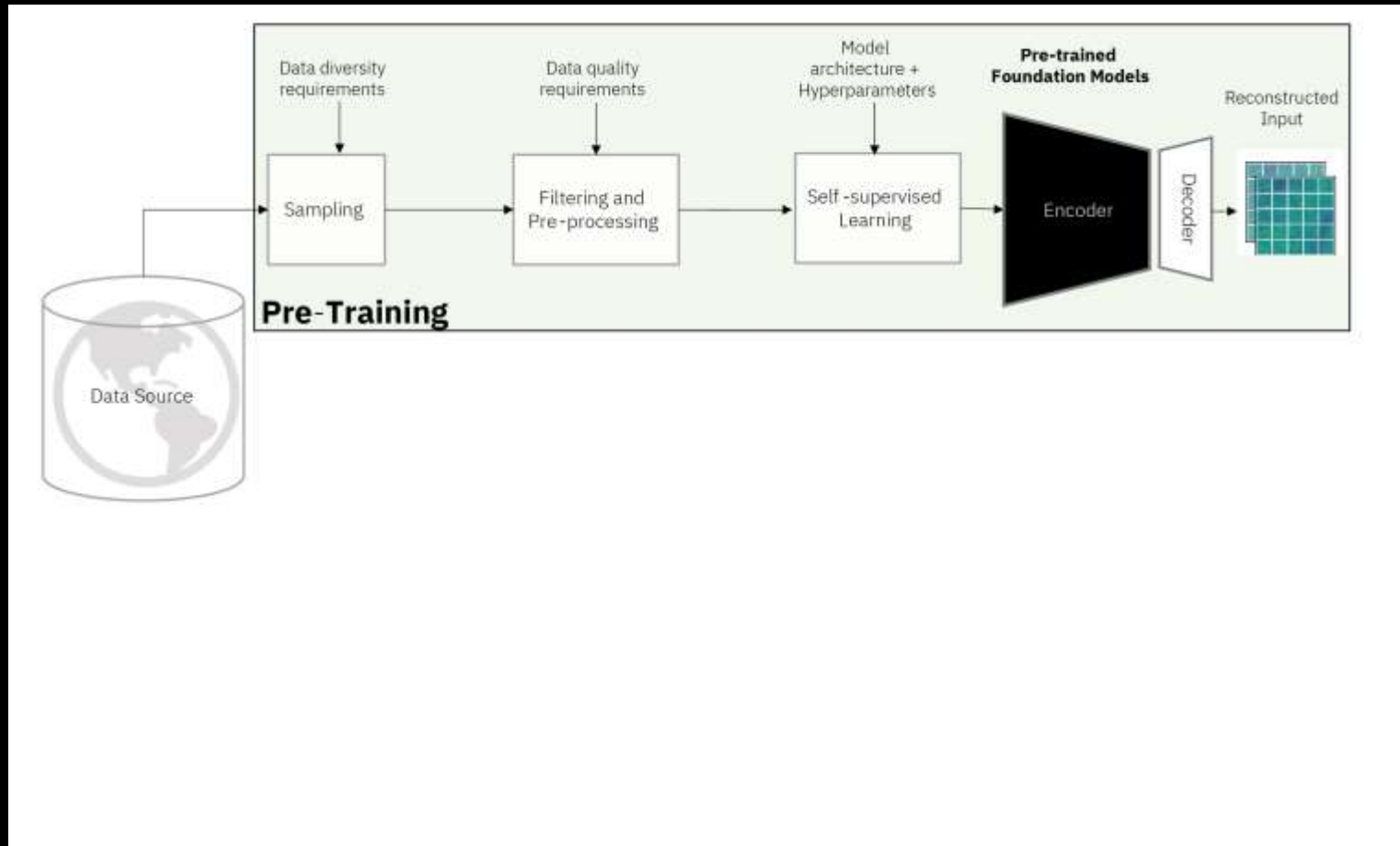
# Let's talk ML and AI



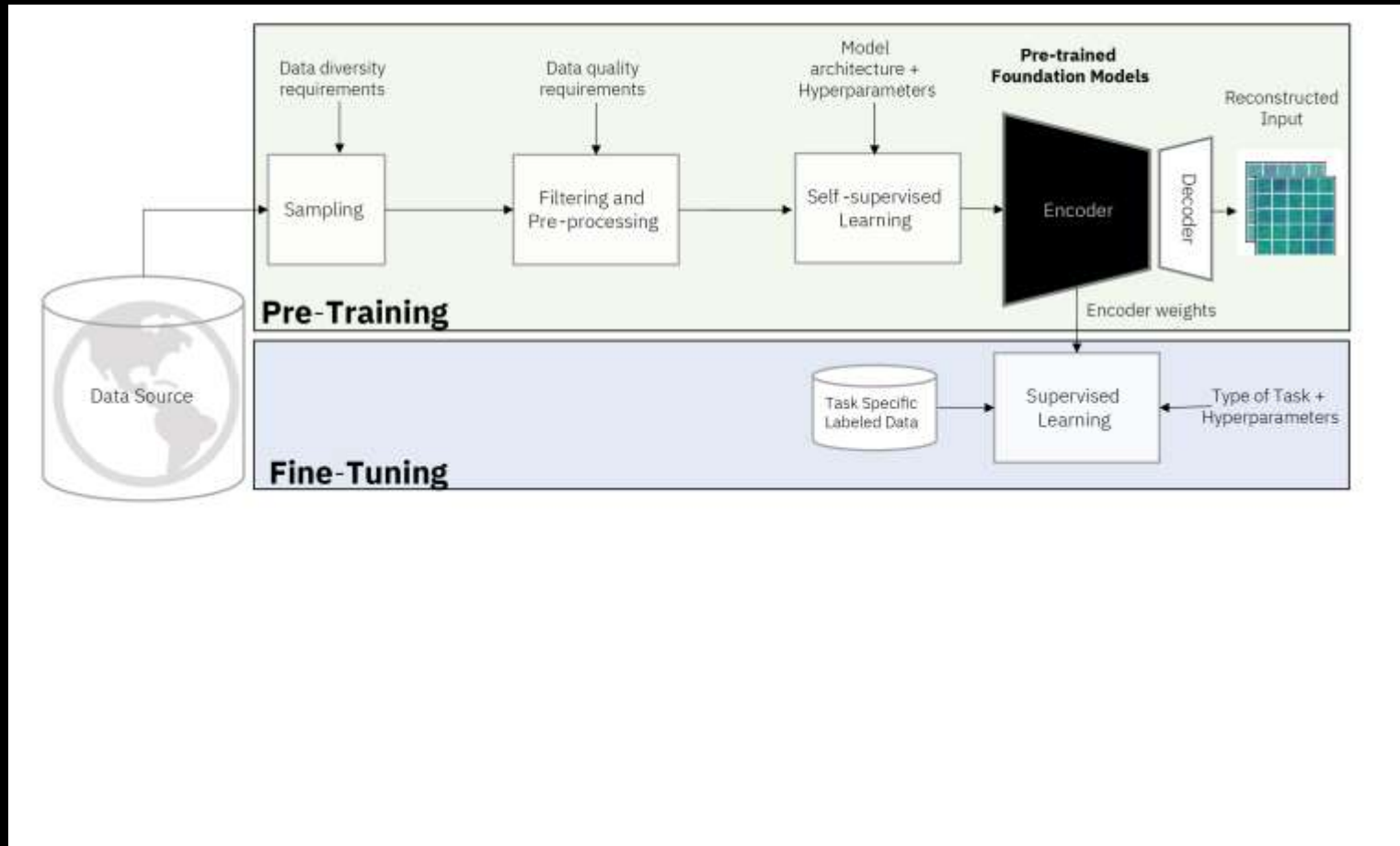
# The evolution of AI and the emergence of Foundation Models



# Foundation Models – how do they work ?

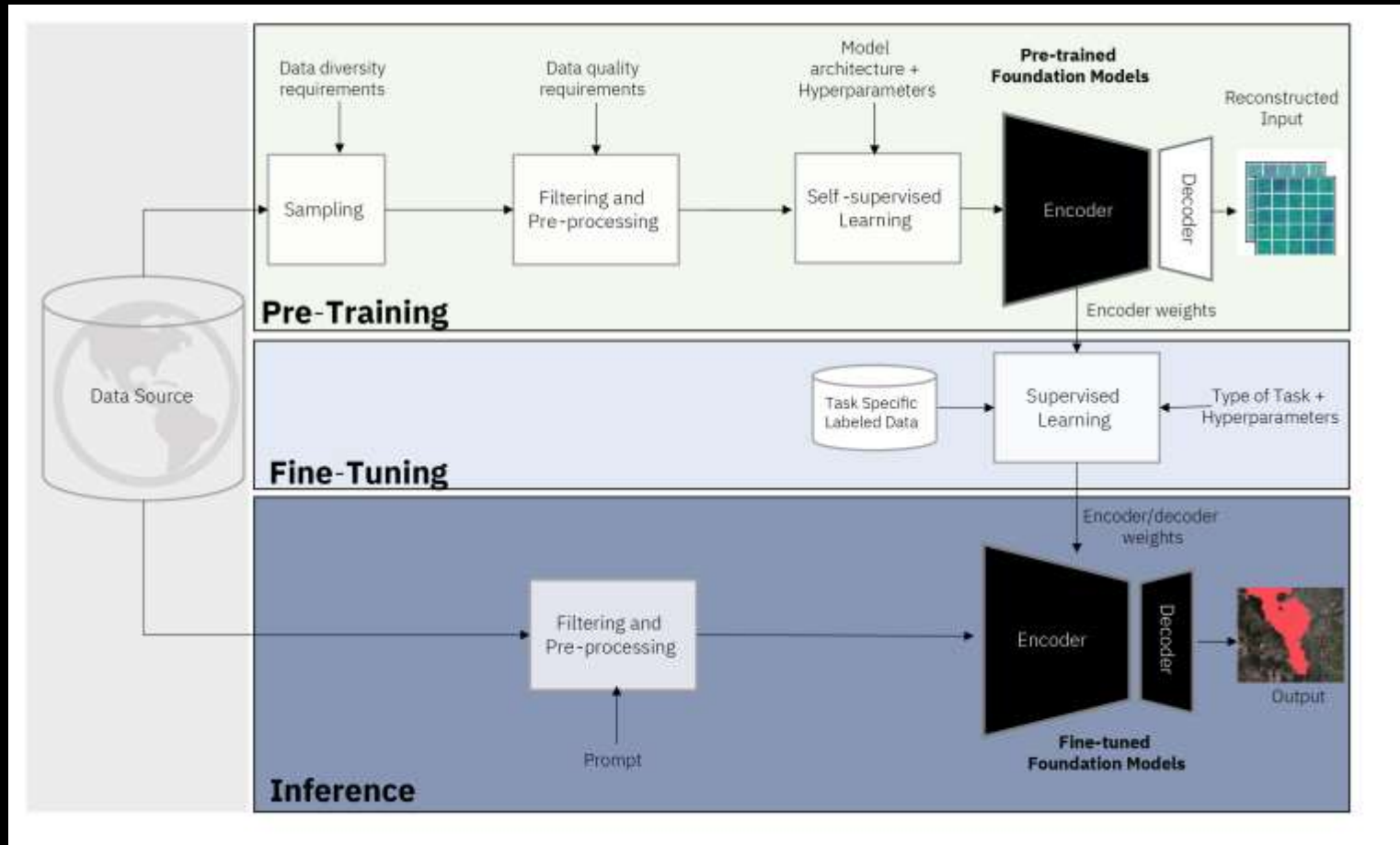


# Foundation Models – how do they work ?





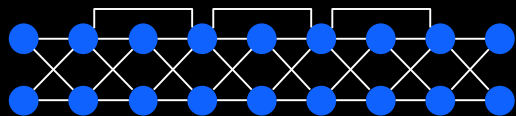
# Foundation Models – how do they work ?



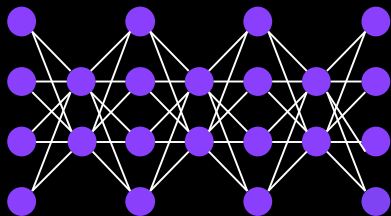


# Why Foundation Models?

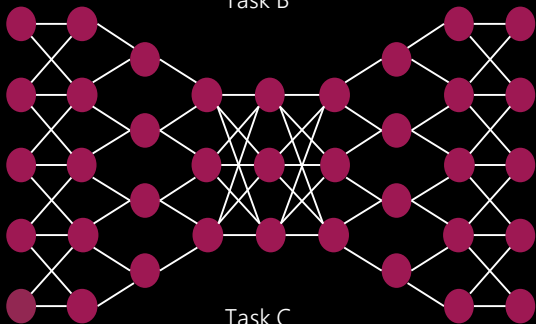
Classical AI models:  
Purpose-built and siloed



Task A



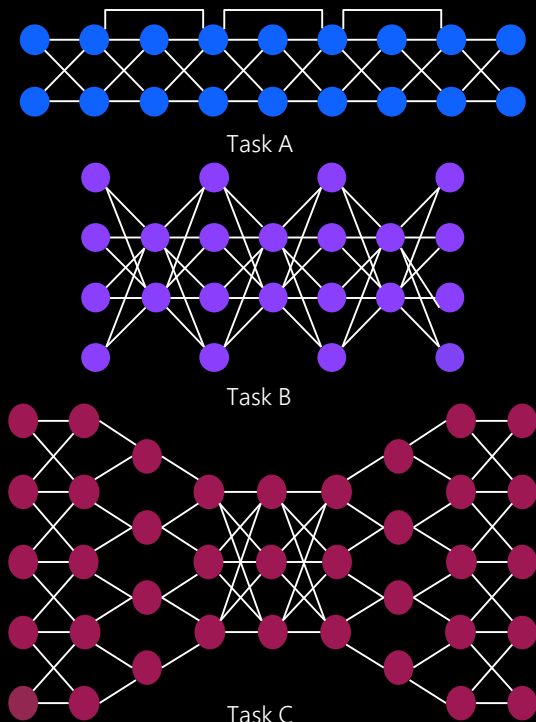
Task B



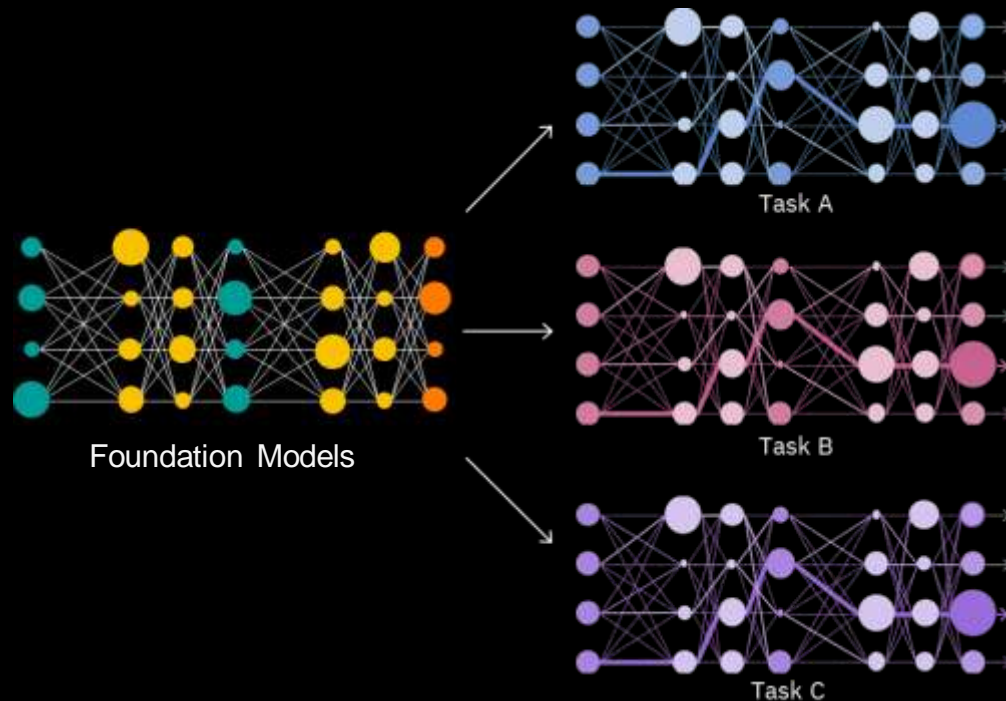
Task C

# Why Foundation Models?

Classical AI models:  
Purpose-built and siloed



Foundation Models:  
One base supports multiple tasks



# Why Foundation Models?



Less labeling means  
less effort and lower  
upfront costs



Effort mostly on fine  
tuning and inferencing  
means faster deployment



Equal or better accuracy  
than state-of-the-art for  
multiple use cases



Better performance means  
incremental revenue



Economy of scale drives the development  
of Foundation Models

# NLP Foundation models are taking the world by storm



**SCALE**

Foundation Models Are The New Public Cloud

**B B C**

Sting warns against AI songs as he wins prestigious music prize

**Forbes**

As AI Advances, Will Human Workers Disappear?

**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.**

**ChatGPT Fever Has Investors Pouring Billions Into AI Startups, No Business Plan Required**

Amid broader venture-capital doldrums, it is boom times for startups touting generative artificial intelligence tech

**'GODFATHER OF AI' RESIGNS FROM GOOGLE, WARNS OF THE DANGER OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**



Question – Can we develop “foundation models” for energy systems?

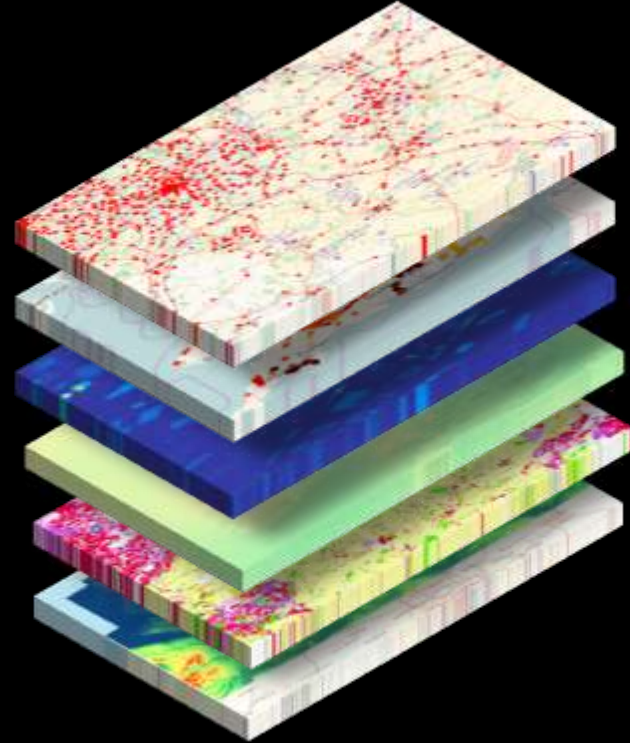
# AI Energy systems go beyond text data

	Text
<i>Downstream applications</i>	High value & Many
<i>Data availability</i>	Available
<i>Data type</i>	Sequence
<i>Data variety</i>	Limited numbers of words
<i>Context</i>	Relative complete
<i>Base Model</i>	Grammar / rules
<i>Architectures</i>	Transformers

# An important modality for energy systems is geospatial

- ✓ Weather
- ✓ Satellite imagery
- ✓ LIDAR point clouds
- ✓ AMI
- ✓ Drone imagery

...and many others

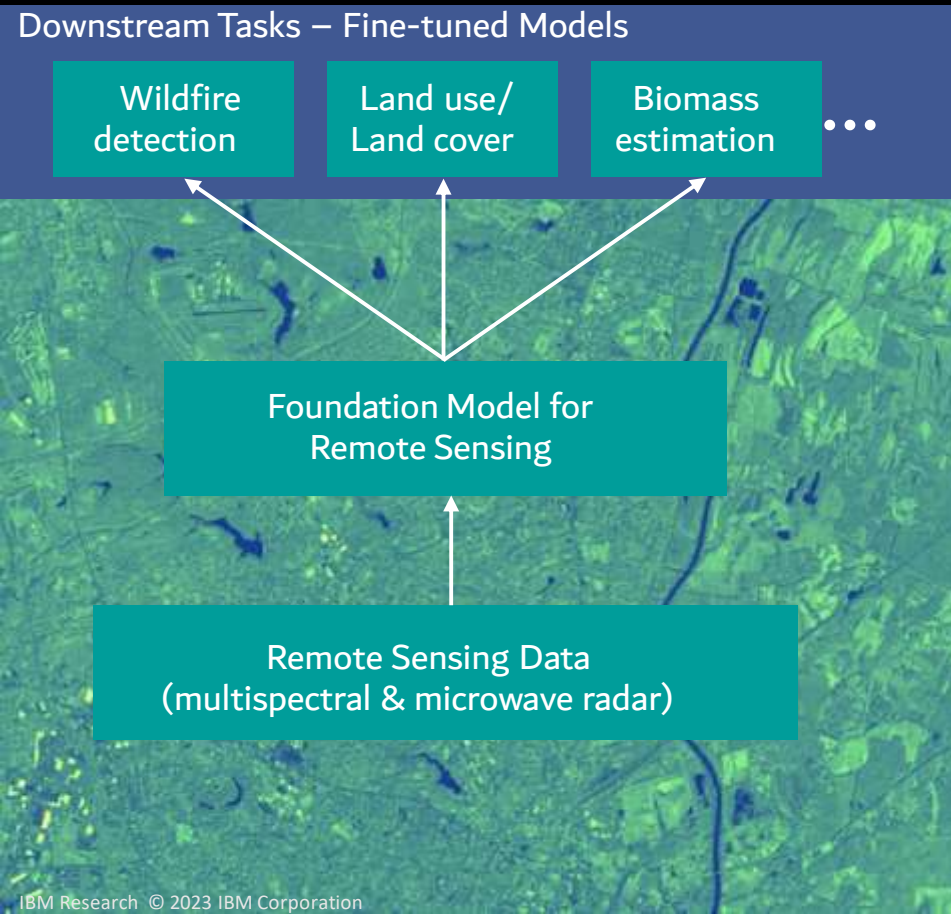


# AI Energy systems go beyond text data

	Text	Geospatial/Weather
<i>Downstream applications</i>	High value & Many	TBD
<i>Data availability</i>	Available	TBD
<i>Data type</i>	Sequence	Multi-modal, multi-dimensional
<i>Data variety</i>	Limited numbers of words	TBD
<i>Context</i>	Relative complete	TBD
<i>Base Model</i>	Grammar / rules	NWP / Physics
<i>Architectures</i>	Transformers	TBD: Transformers, Graphs, Operators

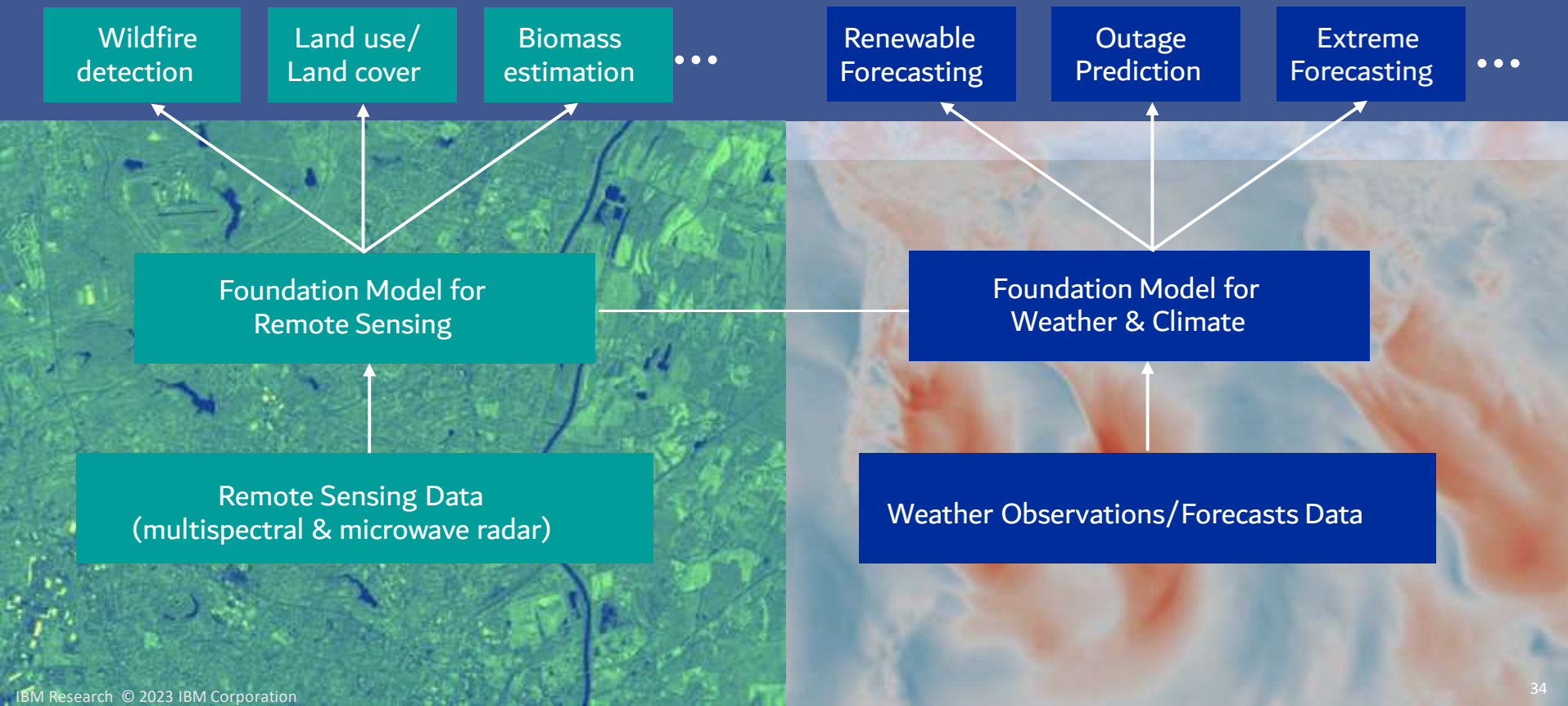


# Building Geospatial Foundation Models

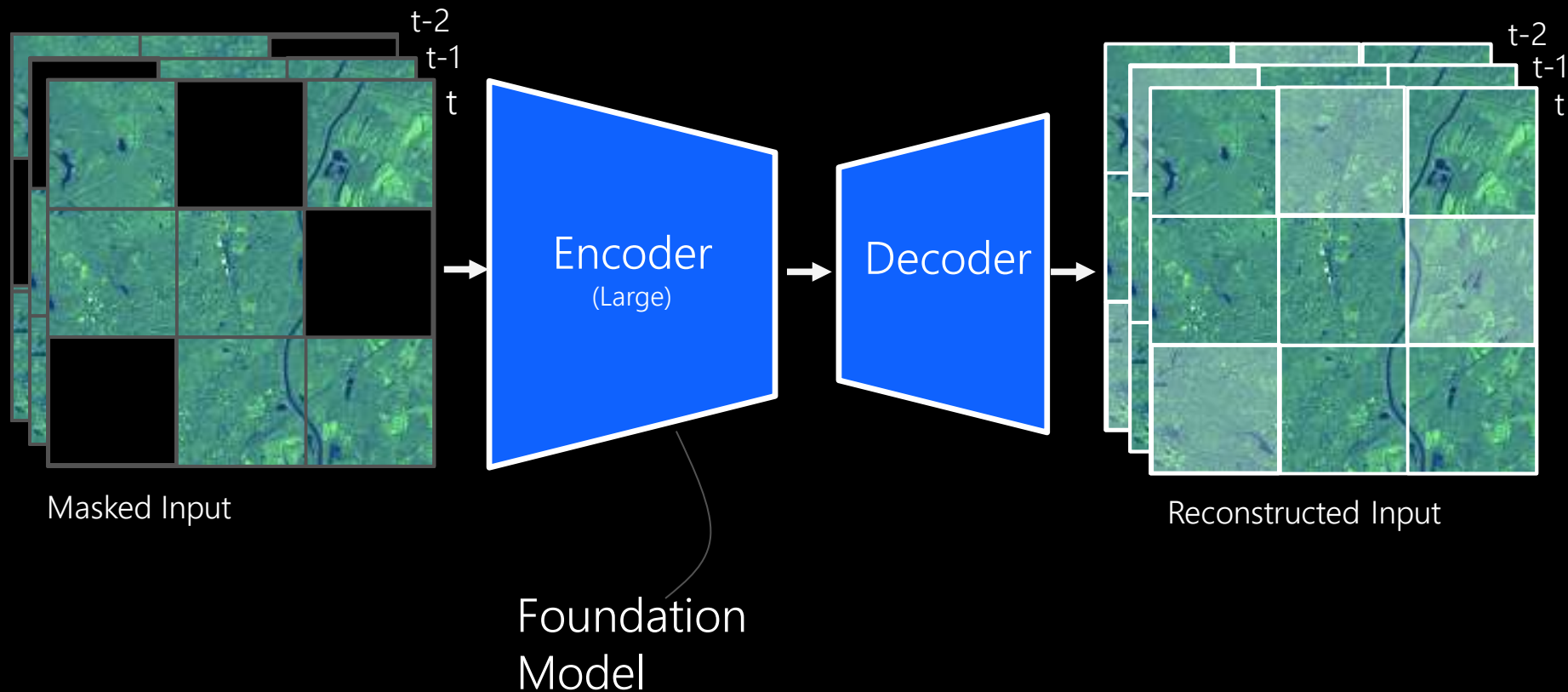


# Building Geospatial Foundation Models

## Downstream Tasks – Fine-tuned Models



# Self-supervised learning to build Foundational Models



# Data sampling procedure



## Selecting pre-training data

Requirement → **diversified** pre-training dataset.

- For a given region, images can look similar across time.
- Random sampling → can bias towards most common landscapes.

Intelligent sampling scheme based on **geospatial statistics**.

## Sampling data from across US

### Sampling scheme

1. Aggregate various geospatial statistics (land use, climate zone etc.).
2. Divide the region into groups based on these statistics.
3. Sample data as equally as possible from each group.

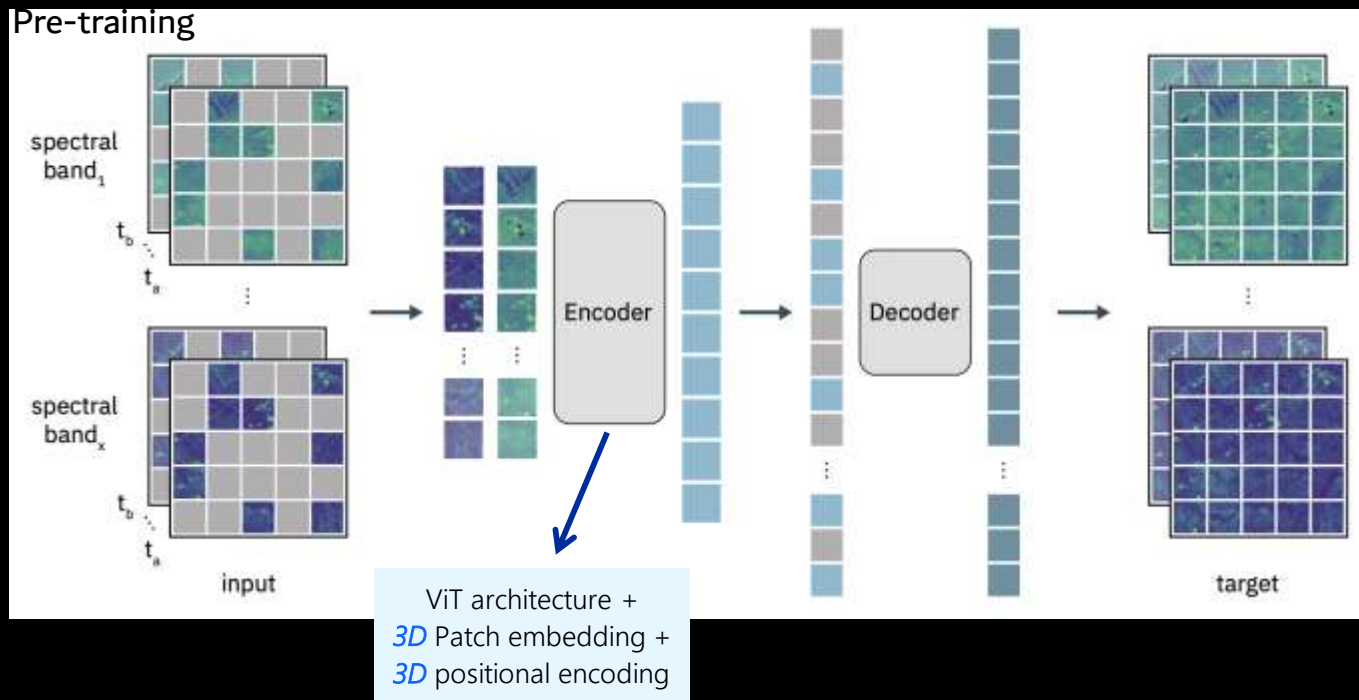
# Model architecture (MAE = Masked AutoEncoder)

- Pre-training task: reconstruct **masked** patches → target = original data.
- MSE loss on **masked** patches.

Encoder → Vision transformer (**ViT/Swin**) for multispectral **3D data**.

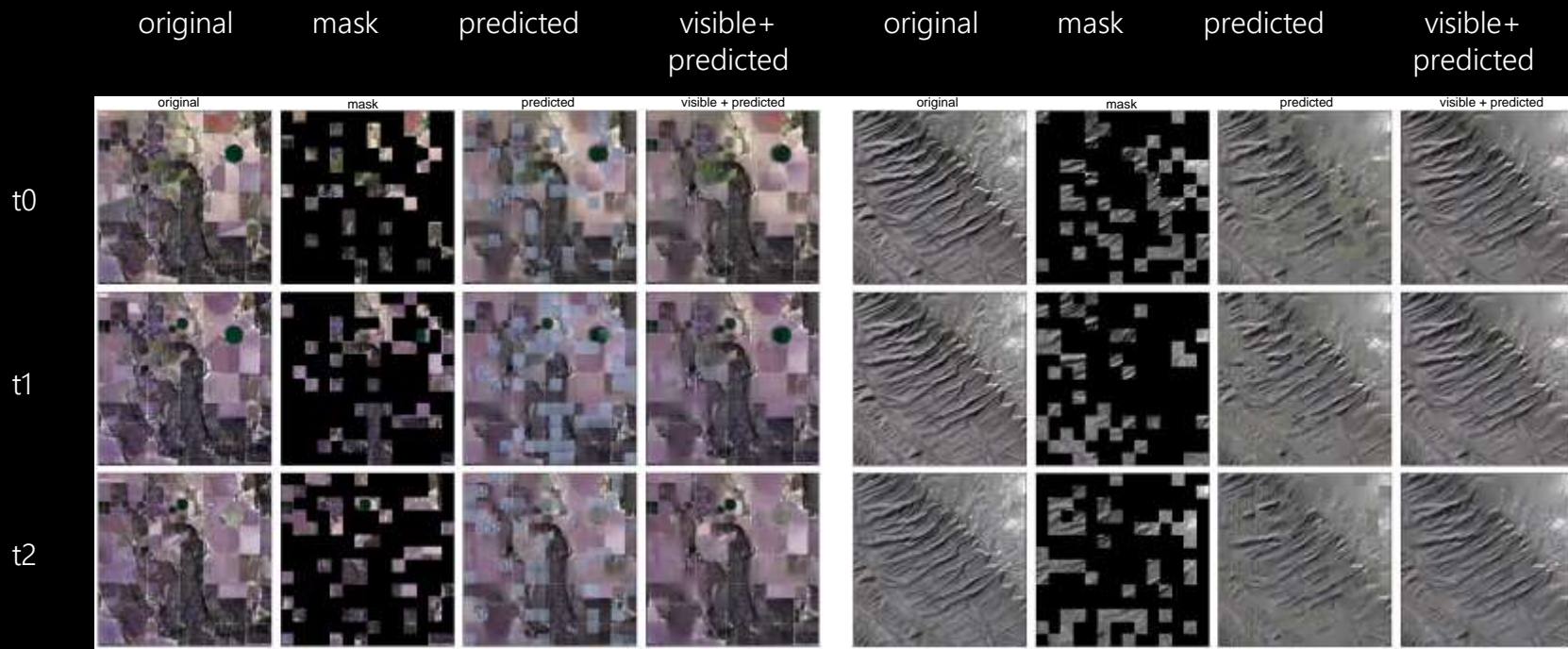
- 3D patch embeddings
- 3D positional encoding

Decoder → Transformer blocks + linear projection layer to match the target patch size.

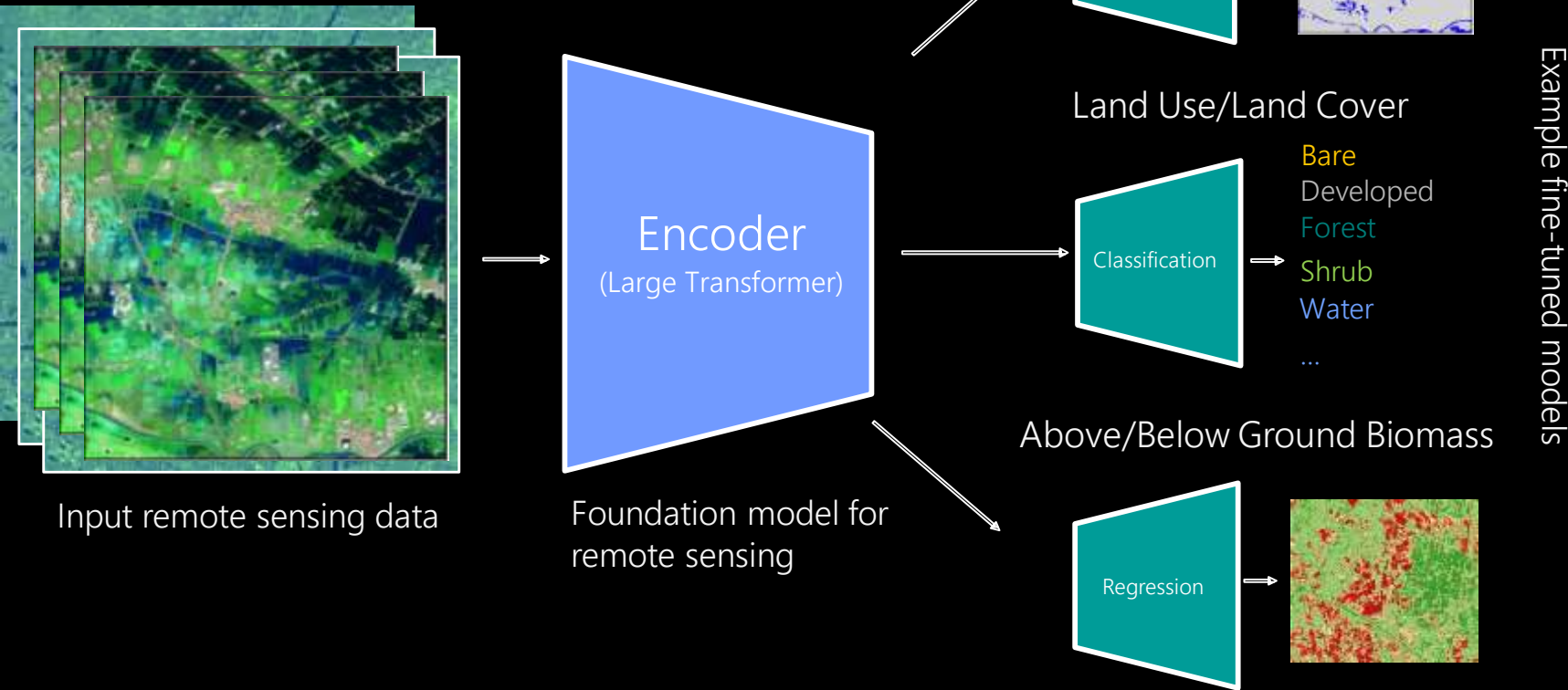




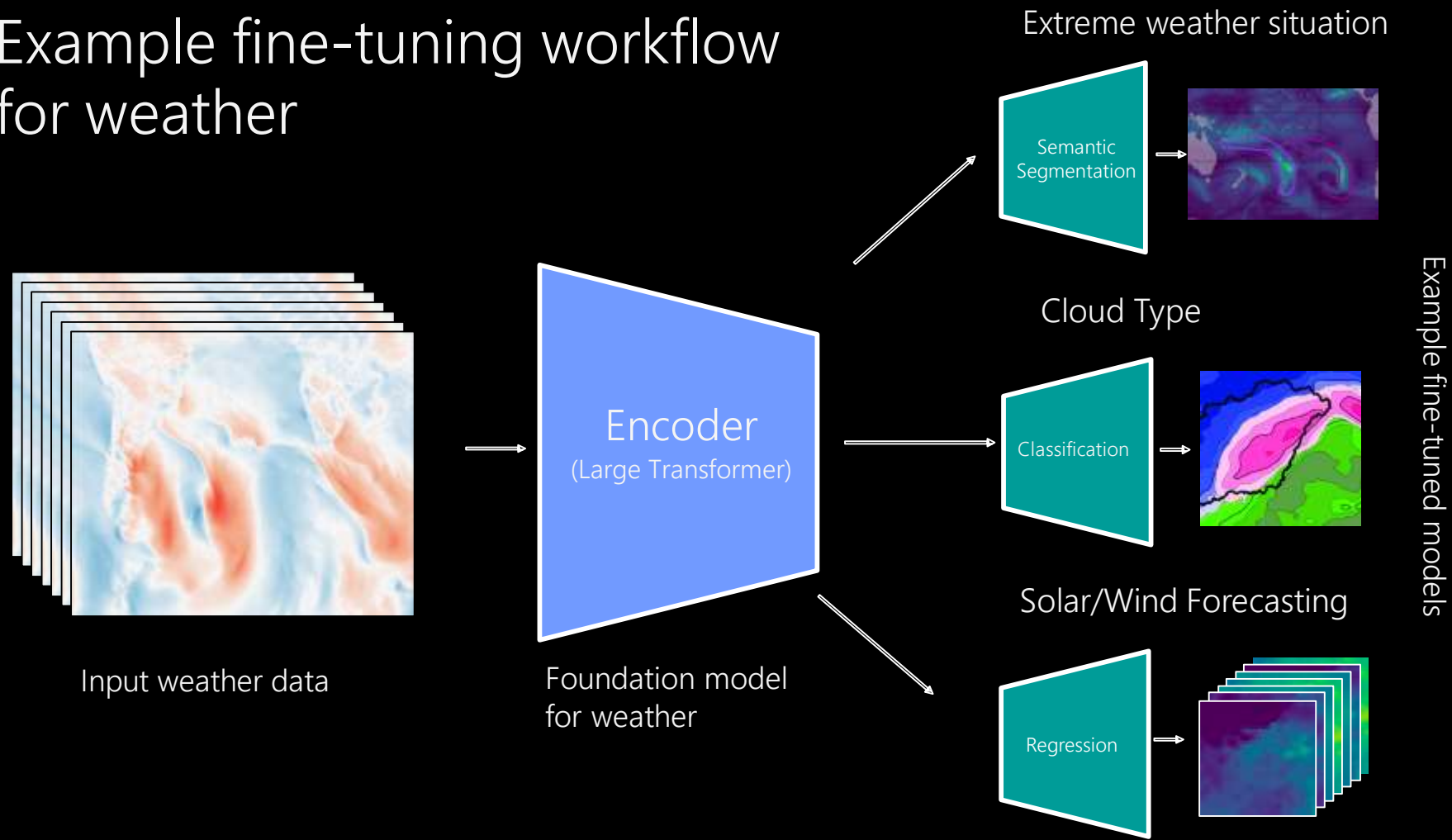
# Pre-training results



# Example fine-tuning workflow for satellite

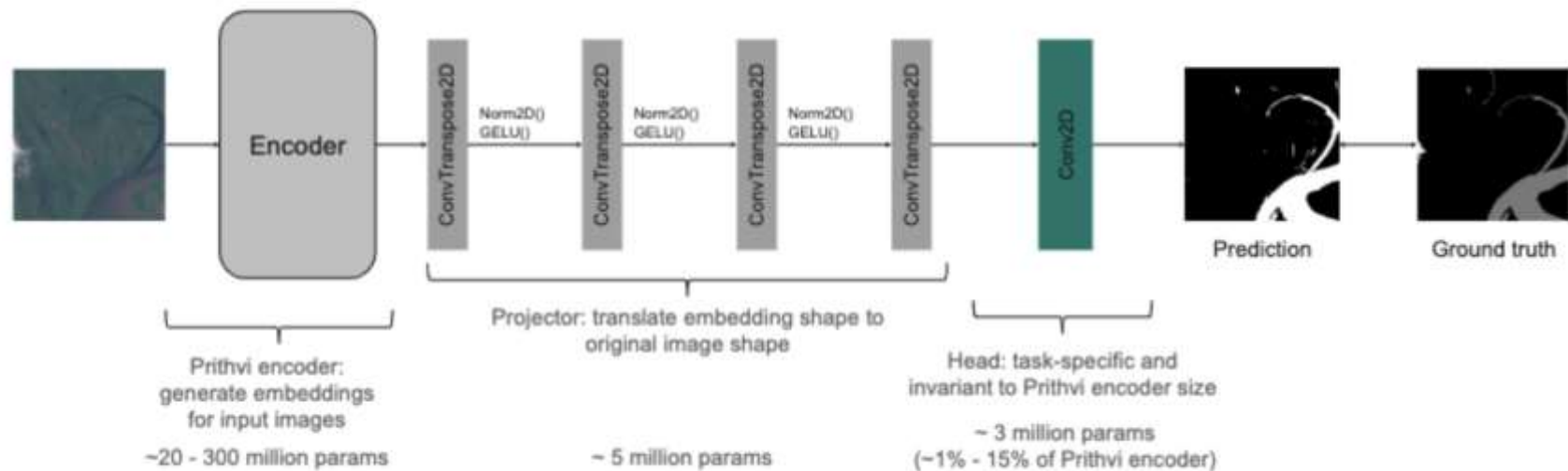


# Example fine-tuning workflow for weather

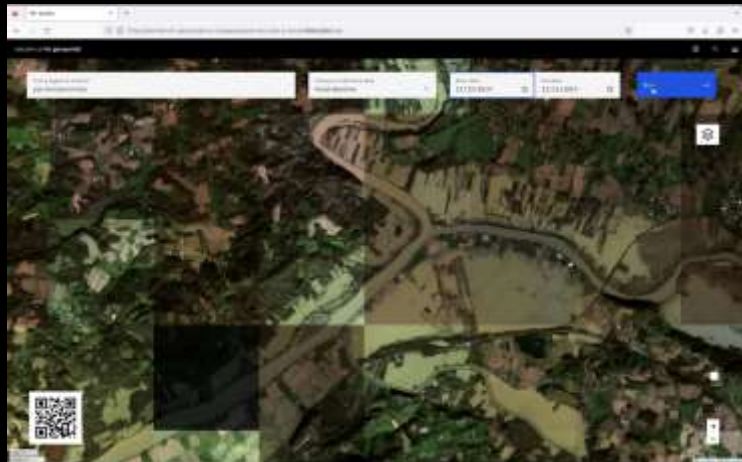




# Fine-tuning – Segmentation, classification and regression tasks

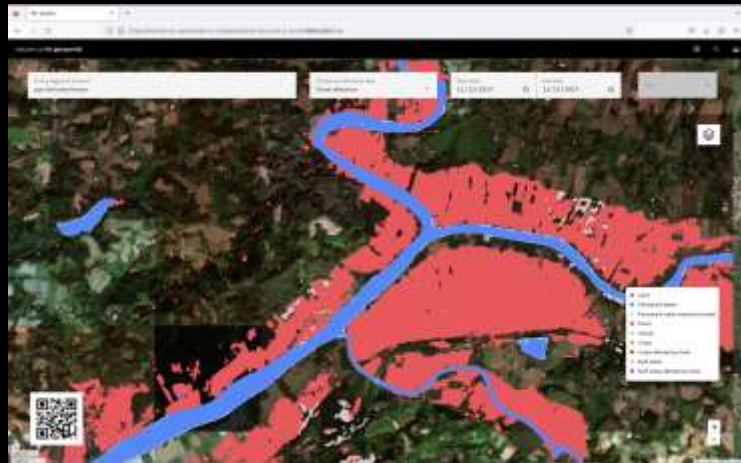


# Inference insights: Flood detection



Insights: Flood  
detection

<< Inference >>  
(e.g., flood task)



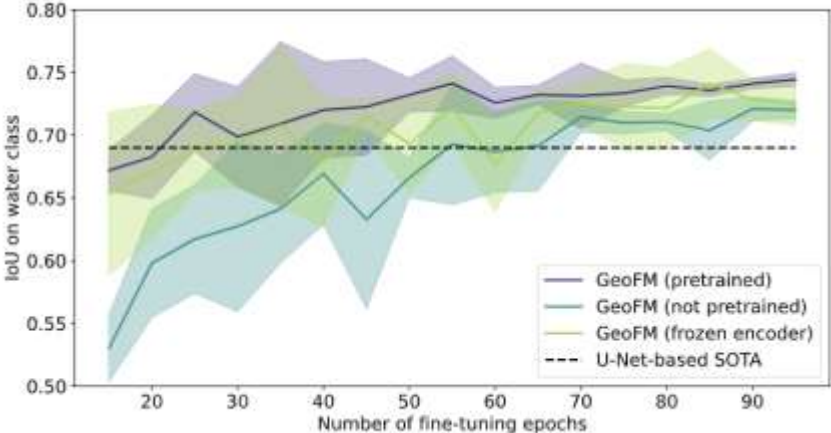
Insights: Flood impact



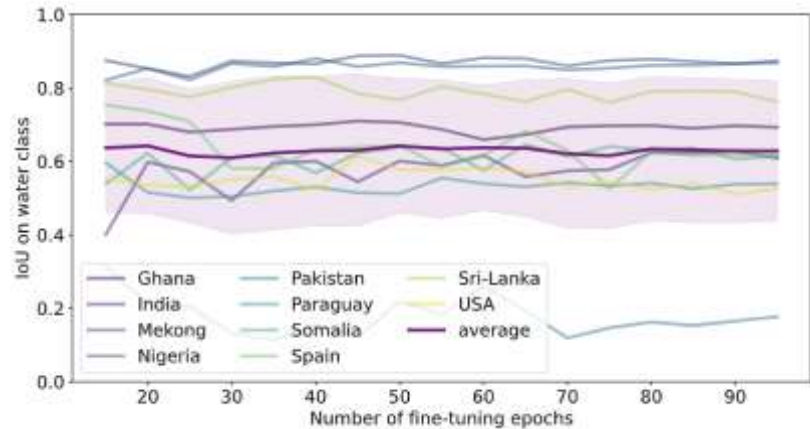
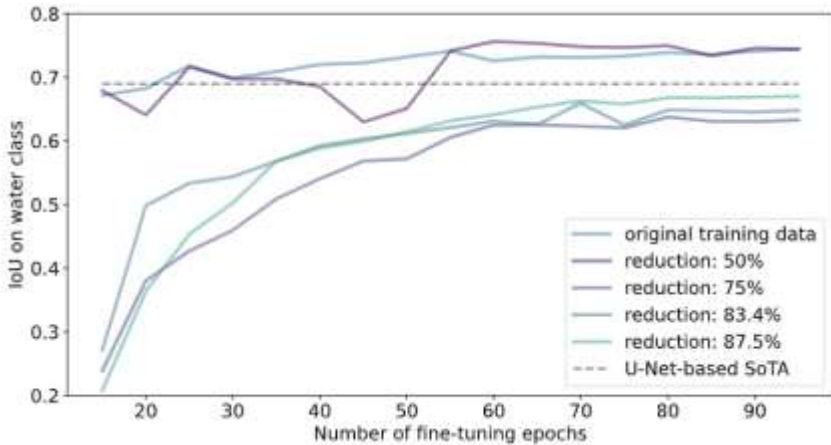
"Prompt": Image(s) (spatial + temporal domains)

	IoU (water class)	F1 (water class)	IoU	F1 score	Accuracy
Baseline [44]	24.21	—	—	—	—
U-Net-based SOTA [43]	69.12	81.74	93.85	96.65	96.44
ViT-base [19]	66.52	79.89	90.92	94.97	94.97
Swin [46]	74.75	85.55	92.38	95.90	94.73
Prithvi (not pretrained)	79.23	88.41	94.52	97.09	97.07
<b>Prithvi (pretrained)</b>	<b>80.10</b>	<b>88.95</b>	<b>94.78</b>	<b>97.23</b>	<b>97.23</b>

The left graph shows a sharp increase in the rate of reaction with temperature, while the right graph shows a more gradual increase.



- ✓ Pre-trained model achieves higher IoU with a smaller number of training epochs and more consistently.
- ✓ It is robust to a reduction of 50% in the training data and performs consistently in most regions where it has not been trained.

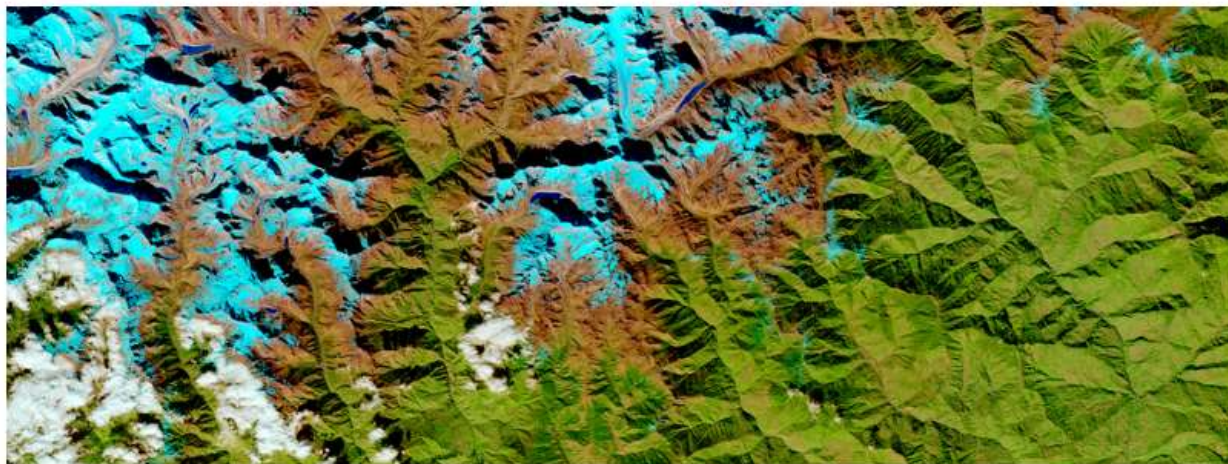




# IBM and NASA Open Source Largest Geospatial AI Foundation Model on Hugging Face

*Effort aims to widen access to NASA earth science data for geospatial intelligence and accelerate climate-related discoveries*

Aug 3, 2023





# Innovation and Research opportunities for AI and Foundation Models for energy systems

- *What (high-value) downstream tasks need to be addressed?*
- *What content is required for pre-training, finetuning and inference?*
- *What is the pre-training/masking approach?*
- *What architectures are required?*
- *How to derive most efficiently knowledge from foundation models*



Thank you